



Business Advisory Council

Minutes

April 23, 2008

Present:

LCB: Lorraine Lee, Roger Hoen, Pat Kohler, Rick Garza, Pat Parmer, Alan Rathbun, Debi Besser, Pat McLaughlin, Jennifer Skoda, Karen McCall, Mona Moberg, Pamela Madson, PK Dan

OFM: Mike Steenhout

Business Stakeholders: Arlen Harris, TK Bentler, Phil Wayt, Gilbert Canizales, Theresa Hancock, Jean Leonard, Steve Lynn, Jan Gee, Michael Transue, Katie Jacoy, Holly Chisa, Scott Hazlegrove, Karen Ferguson, Adam Cook

Called to order at 10:35 am by Board Member Roger Hoen.

Following general introductions, Roger Hoen introduced two new members to the group: Steve Lynn of Water to Wine, representing Small Businesses and Distributors and Theresa Hancock, representing the Contract Liquor Store Association.

In the 2008 legislative wrap up of members, many expressed thanks to the Liquor Control Board for assistance with legislation passed in this year's session. This included:

- Craft Distilleries Bill
- Grocery Store Sampling Bill
- Omnibus Bill

Roger noted that several community prevention groups had actively opposed the sampling bill, but he felt that if they sampled in a separate enough area, things should be okay. Attendees generally agreed that the Omnibus Bill worked well as a legislative approach and should continue to consider it as an approach for future bills.

LCB staff members noted the Agency Request Bill to move some funds to non-appropriated from appropriated, and the bill allowing Class 1 and 2 permit holders to purchase ethyl alcohol directly from suppliers.

Arlen Harris, Washington Brewers Guild, attended a national conference last week. There is considerable discussion regarding the definition of a brewery, which is not a settled issue.

Several members expressed interest in being involved with the SCR 8407 Legislative Task Force Review. Issues left unresolved: the nightclub cap and whether there would be rules or statutory changes regarding suspended licenses.

Senior Policy Analyst Karen McCall discussed the implementation plan for the 2008 legislative session, particularly with regard to the pilot program of grocery store sampling. The plan is to hold a lottery for qualified stores. We plan to send a letter to licensees on June 1, so the meeting needs to occur prior to this date regarding criteria for selecting the locations for sampling. Some expressed concerns regarding the selection of licensees in AIA areas or with a history of violations.

Rules Coordinator Pam Madson gave a rules update per the attached memo dated 4/9/08.

Deputy Director Rick Garza covered Price, Post and Hold implementation. There was a discussion of what remains in effect and how to enforce it. Members expressed concerns about the definition of “fair and uniform” and “informing customers of prices.”

Also discussed was the SCR 8407 Legislative Task Force Review. LCB welcomes stakeholder input as we look at streamlining the licensing process and regulatory reform. There will probably be about four meetings of the interim study group.

Licensing Director Alan Rathbun handed out copies of the memo announcing the public comment meeting scheduled for the Tacoma AIA expansion. He noted that more information could be found on our website.

Adjourned: 2:10 pm.

Next meeting: July 23, 2008 at WSLCB Headquarters

Final 2008 meeting: October 22 – Location to be determined